

WHAT ARE THE
RESPONSIBILITIES OF A
COMMUNITY WATCH MEMBER?

DUTIES OF WATCH MEMBERS

- Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police
- Report unusual activity to the police and block captain
- Report suspicious vehicles and people to the police and block captain

Members may take a more Active role in the watch by:

- Passing out informational flyers
- Coordinating programs
- Becoming a leader

DUTIES OF A BLOCK CAPTAIN

- ❖ Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police
- ❖ Assists the Watch Captain in passing information to and from the members of the program on your block
- ❖ Keeps in touch with the Watch Captain
- ❖ Recruits new members

DUTIES OF THE WATCH CAPTAIN

- Be the “eyes and ears” of the neighborhood for police
- Distributes information to members
- Recruits new members
- Provides current crime prevention information to members
- Updates phone tree
- Announces and advertises meetings
- Leads meetings
- Coordinates information with Law Enforcement
- Develops agendas and finds guest speakers
- Delegates duties among members



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WHAT IS A
COMMUNITY
WATCH?



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WHY START A COMMUNITY WATCH?



Law Enforcement Officers cannot be on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential.

YOU and YOUR NEIGHBORS are the ones who really know what is going on in your community.

By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their community in the most effective way—preventing the victimization of themselves, their families and friends.

Why do residents mobilize?

- ◆ To get something done about an immediate problem
- ◆ To problem-solve on future goals
- ◆ To gather resources for community needs
- ◆ To improve the quality of life in their community

A Community Watch is the “Eyes and Ears of Law Enforcement”

WARNING



A Community Watch is a Crime Prevention Program, which enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime and victimization in their communities.

It involves:

- Citizens using common sense crime prevention practices to protect themselves and their property.
- Neighbors getting to know each other and working together in programs of mutual assistance to prevent crime.
- Citizens being trained to recognize and report suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

A Community Watch is NOT:

- A vigilante group
- Citizens pursuing criminals or becoming physically involved in the criminal event
- Taking the law into your own hands.

What does a Community Watch look like?

Community Watch areas do not all look the same.

Some Community Watches will be defined geographically, while others may be defined on the basis of a common interest the members share.

The basic structure of a Community Watch involves a Watch Captain, Block Captains, and Members.

What role does the Greensboro Police Department have?

- Guides members as they form Watches
- Provides leadership to members
- Supports members as they face challenges and work on goals
- Offers updated crime prevention information and training
- Prepares members to effectively run Watches on their own